

News from Cobham Park Baptist Church

OCTOBER 2020

The LIGHTKEEPER

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden." —Matthew 5:14



Dear Cobham Park Church Family,

God often speaks in odd ways. When Angie first told me she would be resigning, I immediately wondered how I was going to handle all the extra administrative work—especially in the weeks before we found someone else to help. Whenever folks read a list of all that Angie has been doing at church, they're usually shocked: "One person does all this?" Angie was no mere secretary; I always saw her as a priceless minister here at Cobham Park. So, needless to say, I felt a little stressed. I went into my study, shut the door, and told the Lord about it. I looked up and noticed a craft that my youngest son made as a child. He'd crossed

two sticks and then wrapped blue yarn around the center. He continued to weave yarn from stick to stick until a diamond-shaped figure was formed, with alternating shades of blue. He called it "the eye of God," and that's why I've kept it all these years. It sits on my shelf to remind me that God sees everything that happens in my life, and that He is always present.

As I was processing this, I thought of a small amber gemstone that I keep on my desk. My mother gave it to me because it's called a "tiger's-eye." She wrote this verse down with it: ***"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye (Psalm 32:8, NKJV)."*** I immediately felt faith surging within me. I knew that God was going to lead and show me what to do each step of the way.

The final confirmation of God's voice came later that day. In a sense, Angie is following God from one ministry to another. Her shop is more than a job; she sees it as a calling to show Christ's love to the ladies she meets. But like all callings, this move involves stepping beyond what's safe and familiar. I was praying for Angie's direction, and shared Psalm 32:8 with her. She quickly replied, "Funny that you sent that Psalm—it's been on a sticky note inside my wallet for over two years." Don't you love God? He watches over us and leads His own—even when we don't realize it. In Christ, we are the apple of His eye!

In His Love,

Keith
Pastor Keith



PRAISE PAGE

In a normal year, September means the choir begins practicing music for the Christmas season. As we all know, 2020 has proven to be anything but normal. Most days, I just don't feel like singing. During times of trial and difficulties, praise and song are not our natural response. As humans, we tend to complain, get angry, or feel depressed. Yet, I long for the days when singing and music played such an important part in my life.

When I look to the scriptures for consolation, I am drawn to the Psalms where King David made a deliberate choice to praise God: **"My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast. I will sing and give praise (Psalms 57:7, NKJV)!"**

David was a man who was always singing, even in Psalms 57 when he was hiding in a cave to save his life. David can certainly teach us something about how to act and react when we feel holed up in a cave, fearful of what lies ahead. When he probably didn't feel like singing praises, David chose to do just that. What God has taught me through these days is that when singing feels hardest to do, that is when I need to sing the hardest. God reminds us that He is faithful and that like David, we can choose to keep praising God. Even from the cave, God can give us a song.

***Come, let us sing praise to the LORD!
Let us shout praises to the Rock who saves us.
Come and worship him with songs of thanks.
Let us sing happy songs of praise to him.
For the LORD is a great God,
the great King ruling over all the other "gods."
The deepest caves and the highest mountains belong to him.
—Psalms 95:1-4 (ERV)***

In Christ,
Cindy



We continued to meet in the pavilion and tent for worship services through September. We're SO THANKFUL for all who've worked hard each week to make this possible! Please pray for our deacons as they meet to set a date for having indoor services when it is colder (probably in the Fellowship Hall). This will involve some additional precautions. Stay tuned for details!

Living the Impossible Life

Jesus' famous "Sermon on the Mount" describes what Christian living is supposed to look like. But Christians aren't quite sure what to do with Matthew 5-7. We find this teaching beautiful and inspiring, but also confusing and ridiculously impractical—or even impossible. Believers have therefore often explained away, ignored, or selectively applied Jesus' words. We'll be taking the ultimate Bible challenge this month by getting up-close and personal with this profound passage. Matthew 5-7 is both the Kindergarten and PhD of Christian discipleship. But is it really possible? We shall see!

October 1-2: Matthew 5:1-11

October 3-4: Matthew 5:13-20

October 5-6: Matthew 5:21-26

October 7-8: Matthew 5:27-32

October 9-10: Matthew 5:33-37

October 11-12: Matthew 5:38-48

October 13-14: Matthew 6:1-4

October 15-16: Matthew 6:5-18

October 17-18: Matthew 6:19-24

October 19-20: Matthew 6:25-34

October 21-22: Matthew 7:1-6

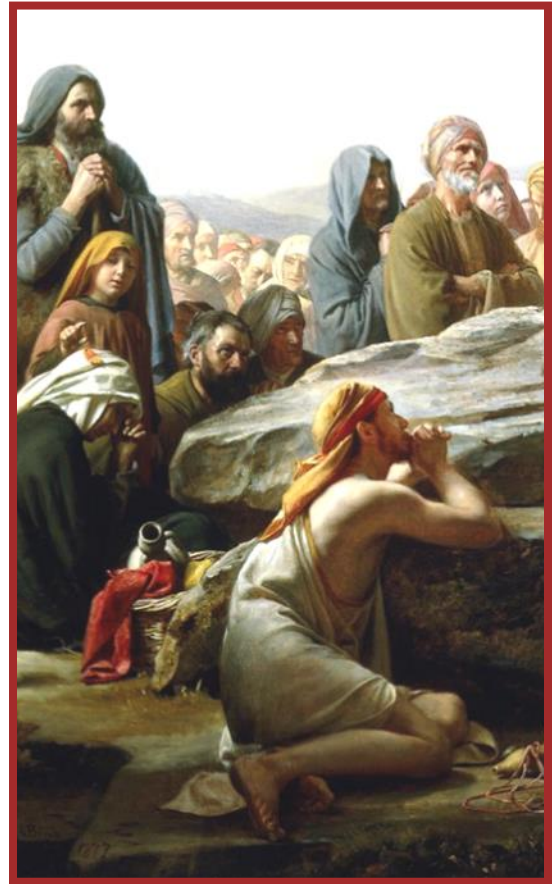
October 23-24: Matthew 7:7-11

October 25-26: Matthew 7:12-14

October 27-28: Matthew 7:15-23

October 29-30: Matthew 7:24-27

October 31: Matthew 7:28-29



From "The Sermon on the Mount," by Carl Bloch

Here's the daily challenge: 1) Ask Jesus to speak to you through His Word. 2) Carefully read through the day's verses. 3) What do you think Jesus is trying to say? 4) What is most difficult about today's teaching? 5) How does this apply to your life specifically? 6) Pray for Christ to live through you today—to do what is otherwise impossible! 7) Pastor Keith plans to send out a devotion the 2nd day of each reading.



Cobham Park Baptist Church
13829 History Land Highway
P.O. Box 306
Warsaw, VA 22572

*Receive His
Light and...*
SHINE!

Postage Paid
Nonprofit
Permit #306
Warsaw, VA
22572

Church Website:
cobhampark.org

Church e-mail:
**cobhamparkbaptistchurch
@gmail.com**

Church Phone:
(804) 333-4350

Pastor:
Keith Williams
"Every Member a Minister"

Contributing Photographer:
Kimberly A. King

Editor:
Angie Sanders

Our Deacon Ministry

Mike Slaw
(Chairman)
(804)333-1400

Andrew Packett
(804)761-6695

Gary Sanders
(804)761-5267

Bo King
(804)761-1058

Wayne Carter
(804)314-2611

Craig Brann
(804)445-6699

Ronnie Hall
(804)337-3636

Tracy Douglas
(804)761-1629

Kent Sanders
(804)380-2950

Bruce Pflugradt
(804)462-5531

Mitch Withers
(804)366-9703

